

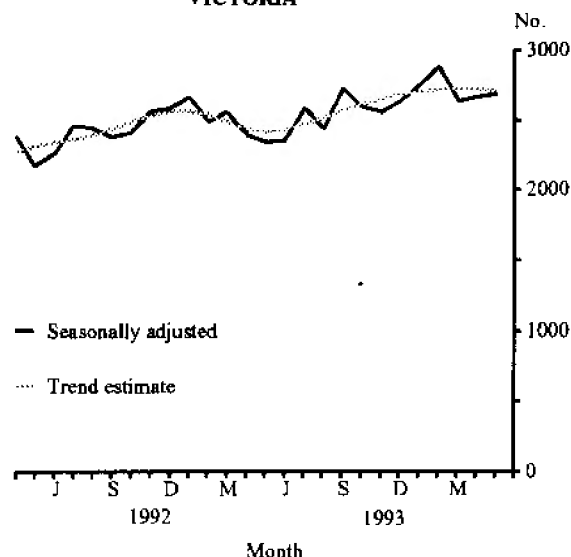
CATALOGUE NUMBER 1307.2

6 JULY 1994

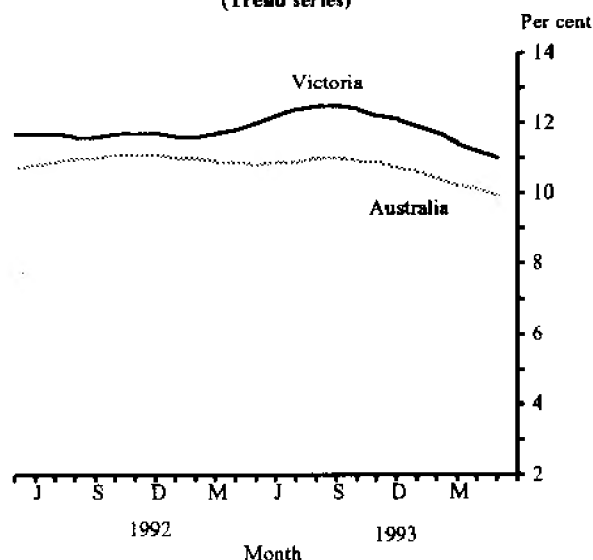
## ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA, JUNE 1994

### MAIN FEATURES

**NUMBER OF NEW DWELLING UNITS APPROVED,  
VICTORIA**



**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE CIVILIAN  
POPULATION AGED 15 YEARS AND OVER  
(Trend series)**



#### New dwelling units approved

The trend estimate of the number of new dwelling units approved in Victoria decreased by 0.4 per cent in May 1994 following a decrease of 0.1 per cent in April 1994. Apart from the slight decreases in April and May 1994 the trend estimate had been increasing on a monthly consecutive basis since May 1993.

The number of new dwelling units approved (trend) in May 1994 in Victoria was 12.0 per cent higher than in May 1993.

#### Unemployment rate

The trend estimate of the unemployment rate for Victoria decreased to 11.0 per cent in May 1994 from 11.2 per cent in April 1994. This was the eighth monthly consecutive decrease since September 1993.

At the national level the unemployment rate (trend) decreased by 0.2 percentage points to 9.9 per cent in May 1994 following monthly consecutive decreases since September 1993.

**Readers are reminded that trend estimates are subject to revision as subsequent months data become available.**

#### INQUIRIES

for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Tony Ward or Dinny Jacons on Melbourne (03) 615 7000; or any ABS State office.

for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services Melbourne (03) 615 7000; or any ABS State office.

TABLE 1. VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA (a)

Indicator		Reference period	Victoria as a percentage of							
			NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	Aust. (b)	Australia
Employed persons	'000	May 94	2,645.4	1,963.6	1,423.2	638.1	785.6	196.7	7,879.2	24.9
*Unemployment rate										
- trend series	per cent	May 94	9.8	11.0	9.4	10.6	8.2	11.6	9.9	..
Average weekly total earnings										
- all employees (c)	\$	Feb qr 94	543.80	533.90	502.90	512.80	506.40	506.70	529.00	..
Consumer price index, all groups (c)	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	109.1	111.2	110.8	113.6	108.6	111.9	110.4	..
*New dwelling units approved	no.	May 94	5,433	3,029	5,591	1,103	2,664	348	18,641	16.2
Value of all buildings approved	\$m	May 94	772.1	528.1	632.7	117.4	272.4	42.2	2,447.5	21.6
Engineering construction										
- commenced, total	\$m	Dec 93	819.2	456.9	604.7	176.8	307.3	35.3	2,518.1	18.1
- yet to be done, total	\$m	Dec 93	1,677.6	878.4	991.6	174.8	434.9	80.6	4,348.1	20.2
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	Apr 94	1,472.9	899.6	799.1	311.1	586.4	71.3	4,290.6	21.0
Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m	Apr 94	3,000.4	2,041.7	1,529.1	647.3	874.3	212.6	8,587.1	23.8
New motor vehicle registrations										
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Apr 94	17,602	10,832	12,450	2,990	4,678	992.0	51,064	23.5
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000	Mar qr	250,074	115,454	190,605	35,007	56,977	22,812	703,914	16.4
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m	Apr 94	1,143.6	934.5	927.4	352.9	1,282.4	117.2	4,930.3	19.0
Imports	\$m	Apr 94	2,267.1	1,599.0	520.7	225.7	384.3	19.1	5,044.1	31.7
*Industrial disputes (12 months ended Mar 94)										
- working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Mar 94	93	109	143	36	54	30	94	..
Electricity production	million kWh	Apr 94	4,508	2,675	2,713	n.p.	1,282	n.p.	12,641	21.2
*Actual private new capital expenditure										
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,940	1,846	823	304	1,710	75	6,759	27.3

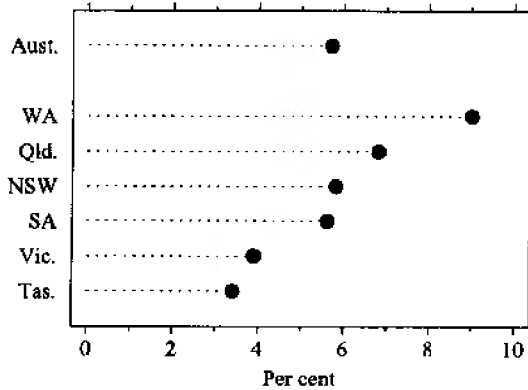
## CHANGE OVER SAME PERIOD PREVIOUS YEAR (PER CENT)

*Employed persons	'000	May 94	3.4	2.4	4.9	0.0	3.4	2.0	3.0	..
Unemployment rate										
- trend series	per cent	May 94	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Average weekly total earnings										
- all employees (c)	\$	Feb qr 94	0.2	2.5	3.8	7.4	-0.9	3.4	2.1	..
Consumer price index, all groups (c)	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	0.8	1.6	1.6	1.8	2.1	2.6	1.4	..
New dwelling units approved	no.	May 94	33.1	22.1	25.1	4.2	35.2	13.7	25.4	..
Value of all buildings approved	\$m	May 94	19.6	43.6	-8.2	-4.0	37.4	54.6	14.6	..
Engineering construction										
- commenced, total	\$m	Dec 93	12.7	-11.6	21.6	0.3	-21.8	-19.8	3.6	..
- yet to be done, total	\$m	Dec 93	-5.3	-0.5	0.6	-14.6	-12.9	-45.6	-5.3	..
Housing finance for owner occupation	\$m	Apr 94	36.1	28.5	29.6	37.8	53.8	28.5	34.2	..
*Retail turnover - trend estimates	\$m	Apr 94	5.8	3.9	6.8	5.6	9.0	3.4	5.7	..
New motor vehicle registrations										
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Apr 94	9.0	0.8	48.3	-5.5	1.5	-11.3	8.9	..
Takings, licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities	\$'000	Mar qr	11.9	7.3	14.1	8.7	14.3	3.4	11.3	..
Exports (excluding re-exports)	\$m	Apr 94	9.9	7.8	5.4	22.8	9.4	-22.6	7.8	..
Imports	\$m	Apr 94	8.8	1.2	3.2	0.9	2.3	-16.6	5.0	..
Industrial disputes (12 months ended Mar 94)										
- working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Mar 94	-13.1	-74.2	83.3	-12.2	-32.5	-89.2	-47.5	..
Electricity production	million kWh	Apr 94	-3.6	-8.5	8.7	n.p.	5.4	..	-1.4	..
Actual private new capital expenditure										
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	-19.5	30.3	-20.4	-27.3	26.8	-39.5	-1.5	..

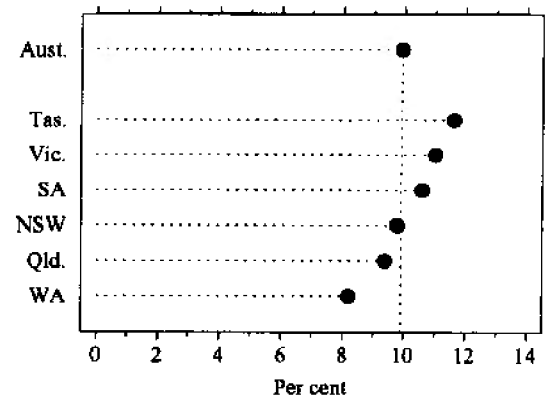
(a) All figures are original unless otherwise stated. (b) The Australian total includes figures for NT and the ACT (c) Available only for the middle month of the quarter. \* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

## VICTORIA IN RELATION TO OTHER STATES AND AUSTRALIA

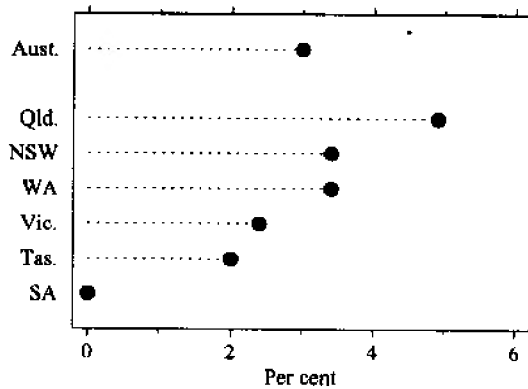
**RETAIL TURNOVER**  
Trend estimates  
Change over same period previous year  
April 1994



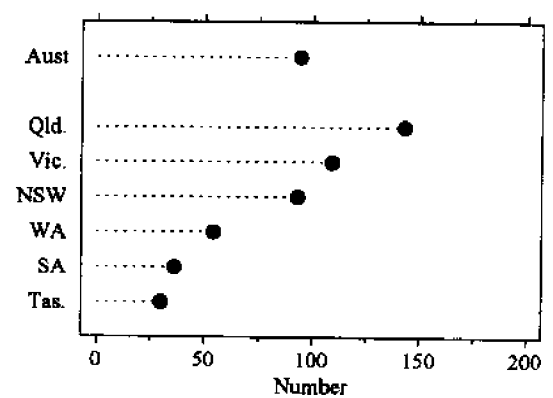
**UNEMPLOYMENT RATE**  
Trend series  
May 1994



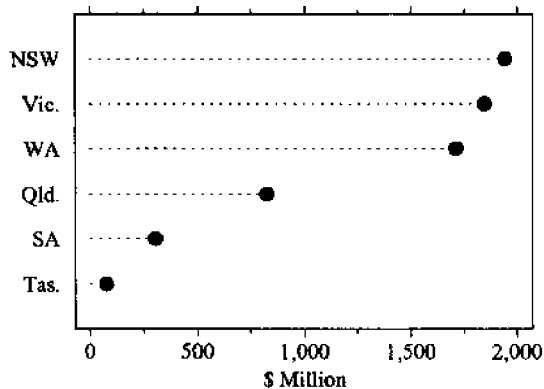
**EMPLOYED PERSONS**  
Change over same period previous year  
May 1994



**INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES**  
Working days lost per '000 employees  
For the twelve months ended March 1994



**PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE**  
Seasonally adjusted  
December 1993



**NEW DWELLING UNITS APPROVED**  
May 1994

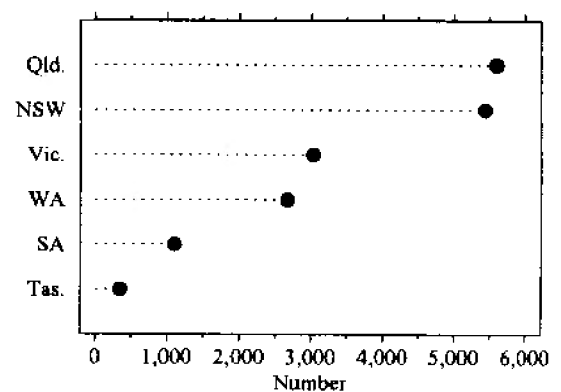


TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA

Indicator		Reference period	Victoria				Australia		Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
			Figures		% Change		Latest period	% Change		
			Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year				
<b>Population -</b>										
Estimated resident population	'000	Sep 93	4,463.7	4,462.1	0.0	0.3	17,712.7	0.3	25.2	1
Civilian population aged 15 years and over	'000	May 94	3,523.0	3,521.9	0.0	-0.3	13,915.9	0.1	25.3	2
<b>Labour force -</b>										
Labour force										
- original series	'000	May 94	2,204.6	2,207.6	-0.1	-0.3	8,729.1	0.1	25.3	2
- seasonally adjusted	'000	May 94	2,206.8	2,213.6	-0.3	0.8	8,714.8	0.1	25.3	2
- trend estimate	'000	May 94	2,209.9	2,207.2	0.1	1.0	8,717.0	0.0	25.4	2
Participation rate- seasonally adjusted	per cent	May 94	62.6	62.9	..	..	62.6	..	..	2
<b>*Unemployment rate</b>										
- original series	per cent	May 94	10.9	11.2	..	..	9.7	..	..	2
- seasonally adjusted	per cent	May 94	10.7	11.2	..	..	9.8	..	..	2
- trend estimate	per cent	May 94	11.0	11.2	..	..	9.9	..	..	2
Employed persons by industry (e)										
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc (b)	'000	Feb qr 94	100.0	103.6	-3.5	0.5	485.5	-6.3	20.6	13, 14
Manufacturing	'000	Feb qr 94	340.2	346.6	-1.8	-2.3	1,110.6	-1.0	30.6	13, 14
Construction	'000	Feb qr 94	119.1	118.8	0.3	-2.2	557.9	-0.1	21.3	13, 14
Wholesale and retail	'000	Feb qr 94	409.5	431.6	-5.1	-0.1	1,624.4	-1.2	25.2	13, 14
Transport and storage	'000	Feb qr 94	94.6	86.3	9.6	7.6	381.1	2.1	24.8	13, 14
Finance, property and business services	'000	Feb qr 94	239.0	227.6	5.0	9.7	914.3	3.7	26.1	13, 14
Community services (c)	'000	Feb qr 94	345.2	357.7	-3.5	0.4	1,453.1	-3.2	23.8	13, 14
Recreational, personal and other services	'000	Feb qr 94	137.9	145.1	-5.0	-2.8	638.7	-0.2	21.6	13, 14
Other industries (d)	'000	Feb qr 94	140.9	150.3	-6.3	-4.5	586.5	-1.1	24.0	13, 14
Total all industries	'000	Feb qr 94	1,926.4	1,967.6	-2.1	0.4	7,752.1	-1.0	24.9	13, 14
Job vacancies (e) - original series	'000	May 94	15.3	11.3	35.4	183.3	38.2	-16.8	40.1	3
Overtime (e)										
Average weekly hours per employee	hours	May 94	1.23	1.31	-6.1	10.8	1.31	7.4	..	3
Employees working overtime	per cent	May 94	17.01	17.23	-1.3	14.0	17.83	6.1	..	3
Average weekly employee earnings (e)										
Full-time adult- total	\$	Feb qr 94	638.20	638.20	0.0	1.6	648.90	1.0	..	4
All employees - total	\$	Feb qr 94	533.90	527.00	1.3	2.5	529.00	1.4	..	4
Award rates of pay										
Full-time adult employees	June 85=100	Apr 94	142.3	142.3	0.0	0.8	141.2	0.0	..	5
Industrial disputes (12 months ended Feb 94)										
Working days lost per '000 employees	no.	Mar 94	109	166	-34.3	-74.2	94	-14.5	..	6
<b>*Consumer price index (e)</b>										
All groups	1989-90=100	Mar qr 94	111.2	110.8	0.4	1.6	110.4	0.4	..	7
<b>*Retail trade establishments</b>										
Value of turnover										
- original series	\$m	Apr 94	1,977.3	2,070.7	-4.5	2.5	8,156.9	-5.3	24.2	8
- trend estimate	\$m	Apr 94	2,041.7	2,030.5	0.6	3.7	8,587.1	0.3	23.8	8
- seasonally adjusted (1989-90 prices)	\$m	Mar qr 94	5,440.8	5,372.9	1.3	2.6	22,886.6	1.8	23.8	8
<b>*Overseas trade -</b>										
Imports	\$m	Apr 94	1,599.0	1,890.0	-15.4	1.2	5,044.1	-13.8	31.7	9
Exports ( exclude re-exports )	\$m	Apr 94	934.5	1109.3	-15.8	7.8	4,930.3	-8.0	19.0	10
<b>Tourism -</b>										
Caravan parks - takings	\$'000	Mar qr 94	23,299	19,096	22.0	5.6	117,097	7.9	19.9	23
Licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities										
- Takings	\$'000	Mar qr 94	115,454	110,502	4.5	7.3	703,914	-0.8	16.4	23
- Room occupancy rate	per cent	Mar qr 94	50.9	47.6	..	..	55.9	..	..	23

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

Indicator		Reference period	Victoria				Australia		Victoria as a % of Australia	Source index (a)
			Figures		% Change		Figures	% Change		
			Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year				
							Latest period	Over preceding period		
<b>*New motor vehicle registrations -</b>										
New motor vehicle registrations										
- original series	no.	Apr 94	9,886	12,713	-22.2	-2.3	44,056	-16.4	22.4	11
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Apr 94	10,832	11,477	-5.6	0.8	51,064	11.6	21.2	11
- trend estimate	no.	Apr 94	11,276	11,357	-0.7	8.8	49,355	0.3	22.8	11
Cars and station wagons										
- original series	no.	Apr 94	8,352	10,863	-23.1	-4.1	36,007	-17.6	23.2	11, 12
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Apr 94	9,236	9,787	-5.6	-1.0	41,686	9.9	22.2	11, 12
Other motor vehicles ( excludes motor cycles )										
- original series	no.	Apr 94	1,538	1,850	-16.9	8.9	8,049	-10.3	19.1	11, 12
- seasonally adjusted	no.	Apr 94	1,601	1,690	-5.3	12.7	9,377	20.0	17.1	11, 12
<b>Manufacturing -</b>										
Actual private new capital expenditure										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	738	618	19.4	36.7	1,987	11.2	37.1	15, 16
Production -										
Whole milk	million litres	Feb 94	418	538	-22.3	14.8	664	-18.9	63.0	17, 18
Butter	tonnes	Dec 93	15,679	16,188	-3.1	2.8	17,925	-2.9	87.5	19
Cheese (incl. cheddar and non-cheddar)	tonnes	Dec 93	14,486	14,789	-2.0	7.0	24,296	-2.9	59.6	19
Yarns										
- Cotton	tonnes	Mar 94	1,739	1,363	27.6	56.9	3,081	20.8	56.4	17, 18
- Woollen	tonnes	Feb 94	1,520	931	63.3	29.6	1,845	65.8	82.4	17, 18
Woven fabric										
- Cotton	'000 sq m	Mar 94	2,341	1,777	31.7	34.9	4,797	14.8	48.8	17, 18
- Woollen (includes worsted wool)	'000 sq m	Mar 94	447	428	4.4	-10.6	832	14.8	53.7	17, 18
- Man-made fibres	'000 sq m	Mar 94	6,062	6,441	-5.9	-11.0	16,021	0.0	37.8	17, 18
Textile floor coverings	'000 sq m	Mar 94	3,252	3,219	1.0	5.6	4,056	-0.3	80.2	17, 18
Clay bricks	million	Mar 94	30	24	25.0	0.0	170	13.3	17.6	17, 18
Ready mixed concrete	'000 cu m	Feb 94	235	181	29.8	0.4	1,202	23.7	19.6	20
Paints and other surface coatings										
- Architectural and decorative paints	'000 litres	Feb 94	1,599	1,110	44.1	3.1	9,621	24.6	16.6	21
Electricity - production	million kWh	Apr 94	2,675	2,904	-7.9	-8.5	12,641	-6.3	21.2	22
Gas - available for issue through mains	million Mj	Apr 94	13,000	13,999	-7.1	-1.0	44,441	-5.4	29.3	22
<b>*Actual private new capital expenditure -</b>										
Building and structures - original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	448	396	13.1	17.3	2,234	26.6	20.1	15
Equipment, plant and machinery										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,511	1,298	16.4	34.3	5,043	9.7	30.0	15
Total new capital expenditure										
- original series	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,960	1,695	15.6	30.1	7,277	14.4	26.9	15
- seasonally adjusted	\$m	Dec qr 1993	1,846	1,675	10.2	30.3	6,759	4.1	27.3	15
<b>*Housing finance for owner occupation -</b>										
Secured loans to individuals by type of lender										
All Banks										
- number of dwelling units financed	no.	Apr 94	10,792	12,696	-15.0	35.9	43,658	-19.5	24.7	24
- value of loans secured	\$m	Apr 94	862.6	1014.4	-15.0	29.7	3,970.8	-20.5	21.7	24
Total number of dwelling units financed	no.	Apr 94	11,222	13,023	-13.8	33.2	47,277	-19.6	23.7	24
Total value of loans secured (f)	\$m	Apr 94	899.6	1036.2	-13.2	28.5	4,290.6	-20.3	21.0	24
Loan purpose (g)										
- Established dwellings	\$m	Apr 94	658.8	796.1	-17.2	22.3	3,066.5	-22.3	21.5	24
- Construction of dwellings	\$m	Apr 94	141.4	148.2	-4.6	28.4	760.8	-12.1	18.6	24
- Newly erected dwellings	\$m	Apr 94	33.5	39.9	-16.0	28.8	200.5	-21.6	16.7	24
<b>Finance -</b>										
Personal finance commitments - total	\$m	Apr 94	444.9	564.2	-21.1	24.4	1,980.4	-20.9	22.5	30
Commercial finance commitments - total	\$m	Apr 94	1,742.7	2,541.5	-31.4	6.7	7,020.4	-26.0	24.8	31
Lease finance commitments - total	\$m	Apr 94	96.6	112.4	-14.1	27.3	475.8	-11.8	20.3	32

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 2. ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA AND AUSTRALIA - (continued)

Indicator	Reference period	Victoria				Australia				Source index (a)
		Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Over same period previous year	Latest period	Preceding period	Over preceding period	Victoria as a % of Australia	
<b>Building Approvals -</b>										
*New residential dwelling units										
- original series	no. May 94	3,029	2,422	25.1	22.1	18,641	34.5	16.2	25, 26	
- seasonally adjusted	no. May 94	2,685	2,667	0.7	14.6	16,883	10.4	15.9	25, 26	
- trend estimate	no. May 94	2,707	2,717	-0.4	12.0	15,895	1.2	17.0	25, 26	
Value of non-residential buildings										
- original series	\$m May 94	151.1	178.9	-15.5	40.2	612.2	-4.6	24.7	26.0	
Value of all buildings (f)										
- original series	\$m May 94	528.1	444.4	18.8	43.6	2,447.5	21.6	21.6	26.0	
<b>Building commencements -</b>										
New residential dwelling units, monthly	no. Mar 94	2,858.0	2,446	16.8	6.1	n.a.	n.a.	..	27.0	
New residential dwelling units, quarterly	no. Dec qr 1993	8,308.0	7,487	11.0	12.3	44,469.0	-3.2	18.7	28.0	
<b>Building Activity -</b>										
Value of total building activity										
- Commenced	\$m Dec qr 1993	1,405.8	1,269.5	10.7	20.6	6,573.2	4.3	21.4	28	
- Done	\$m Dec qr 1993	1,332.0	1,286.7	3.5	-0.4	6,709.5	3.7	19.9	28	
- Yet to be done	\$m Dec qr 1993	1,364.4	1,273.2	7.2	-2.7	7,944.6	-0.3	17.2	28	
<b>Engineering construction -</b>										
Value of work by private sector										
- Commenced	\$m Dec qr 1993	226.8	215.9	5.0	-3.9	1,477.4	-2.1	15.4	29	
- Done	\$m Dec qr 1993	274.5	295.3	-7.0	31.7	1,697.9	0.1	16.2	29	
- Yet to be done	\$m Dec qr 1993	577.0	623.5	-7.5	1.4	2,444.8	-5.2	23.6	29	
Value of work by public sector										
- Commenced	\$m Dec qr 1993	230.1	273.2	-15.8	-16.0	1,040.7	-47.6	22.1	29	
- Done	\$m Dec qr 1993	230.7	198.6	16.2	-21.0	1,303.7	11.6	17.7	29	
- Yet to be done	\$m Dec qr 1993	301.4	302.9	-0.5	2.3	1,903.3	-12.6	15.8	29	

(a) For more information on these series, refer to the publications listed in the source index below. (b) Includes hunting and mining. (c) Comprises health, education, libraries, etc., welfare and religious institutions, and other community groups. (d) Comprises electricity, gas and water, communications, public administration and defence. (e) Available only for the middle month of the quarter. (f) Includes, alterations and additions to residential buildings. (g) Excludes, alterations and additions to residential buildings.

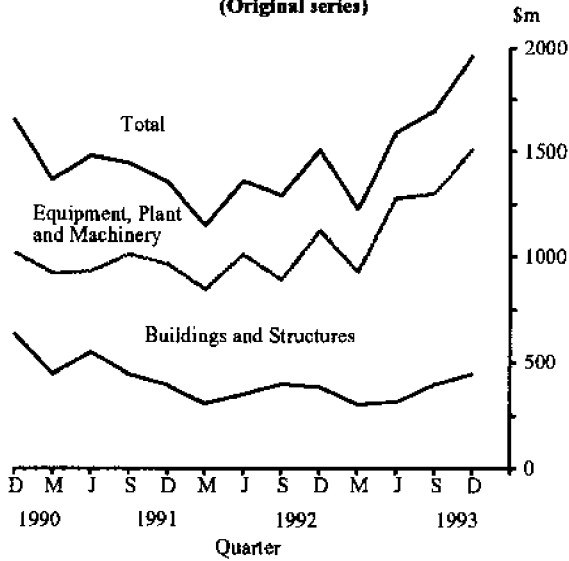
\* An asterisk before a statistical series denotes that a corresponding graph is included in the relevant section.

## SOURCE INDEX

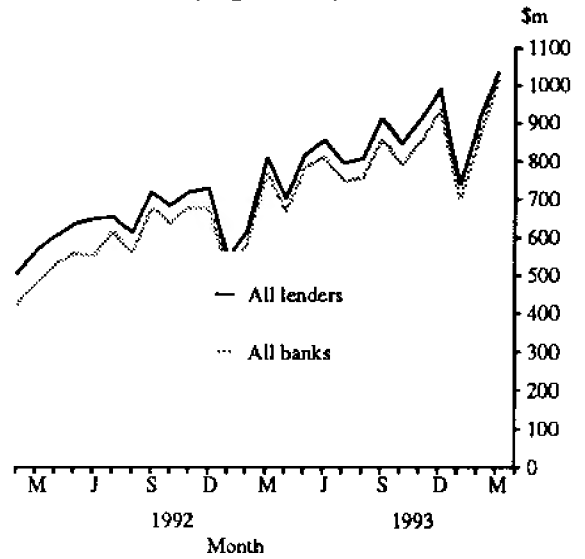
1. *Australian Demographic Statistics*, (3101.0) \$12.20
2. *The Labour Force, Australia, Preliminary*, (6202.0) \$10.70
3. *Job Vacancies and Overtime, Australia*, (6354.0) \$12.70
4. *Average Weekly Earnings, States & Australia*, (6302.0) \$12.70
5. *Award Rates of Pay Indexes, Australia*, (6312.0) \$12.70
6. *Industrial Disputes, Australia*, (6321.0) \$10.70
7. *Consumer Price Index*, (6401.0) \$11.70
8. *Retail Trade Australia*, (8501.0) \$10.70
9. *Imports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables*, (5433.0) \$9.70
10. *Exports, Australia, Monthly Summary Tables*, (5432.0) \$9.70
11. *Motor Vehicle Registrations, Australia*, (9303.0) \$10.70
12. *Motor Vehicle Registrations, Victoria*, (9303.2) \$10.70
13. *The Labour Force, Victoria*, (6202.2) \$16.30
14. *The Labour Force, Australia*, (6203.0) \$16.30
15. *State Estimates of Private New Capital Expenditure*, (5646.0) \$10.70
16. *Private New Capital Expenditure, Australia*, (5626.0) \$10.70
17. *Monthly Summary of Statistics, Victoria*, (1303.2) \$10.70
18. *Monthly Summary of Statistics, Australia*, (1304.0) \$20.40
19. *Prod. of Food, Drink and Tobacco, Australia*, (8359.0) \$10.70
20. *Prod. of Building Materials & Fittings, Australia*, (8361.0) \$9.00
21. *Prod. of Chemicals & By-products, Australia*, (8362.0) \$9.00
22. *Prod. of Energy Products, Australia*, (8368.0) \$7.00
23. *Tourist Accommodation, Australia*, (8635.0) \$20.00
24. *Housing Finance for Owner Occupation, Australia*, (5609.0) \$10.70
25. *Building Approvals, Victoria*, (8731.2) \$10.70
26. *Building Approvals, Australia*, (8731.0) \$13.30
27. *Dwelling Unit Commencements Reported by Approving Authorities, Victoria*, (8741.2) \$10.70
28. *Building Activity, Australia*, (8752.0) \$14.30
29. *Engineering Construction, Australia*, (8762.0) \$10.70
30. *Personal Finance, Australia*, (5642.0 Tables 1E and 3E PC-Ausstats)
31. *Commercial Finance, Australia*, (5643.0 Tables 1E and 3E PC-Ausstats)
32. *Lease Finance, Australia*, (5644.0 Tables 1E and 3E PC-Ausstats)

## ECONOMIC INDICATORS, VICTORIA

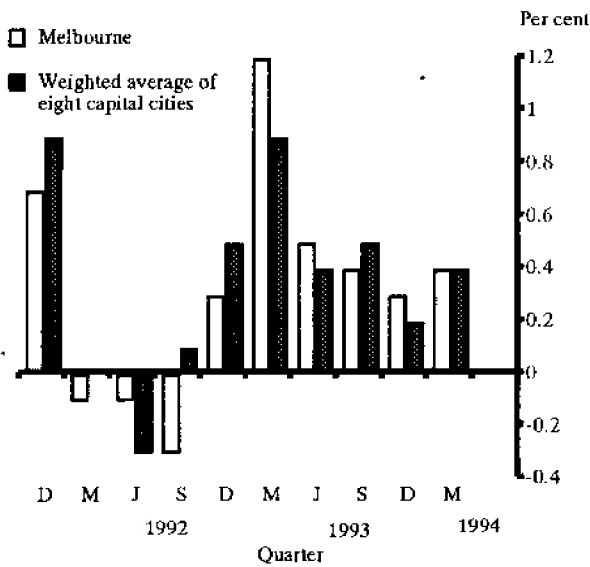
**ACTUAL PRIVATE NEW CAPITAL EXPENDITURE, VICTORIA**  
(Original series)



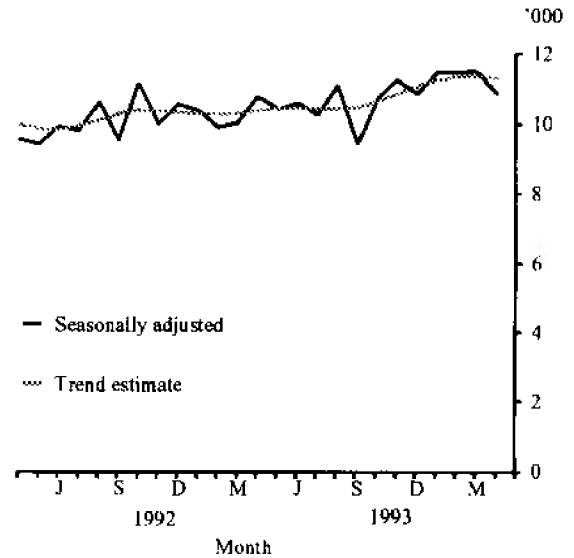
**SECURED HOUSING FINANCE COMMITMENTS TO INDIVIDUALS, VICTORIA**  
(Original series)



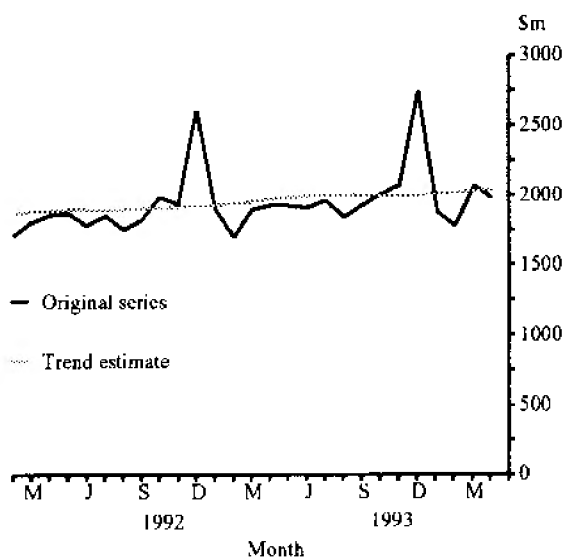
**CONSUMER PRICE INDEX: ALL GROUPS**  
Percentage change from previous quarter



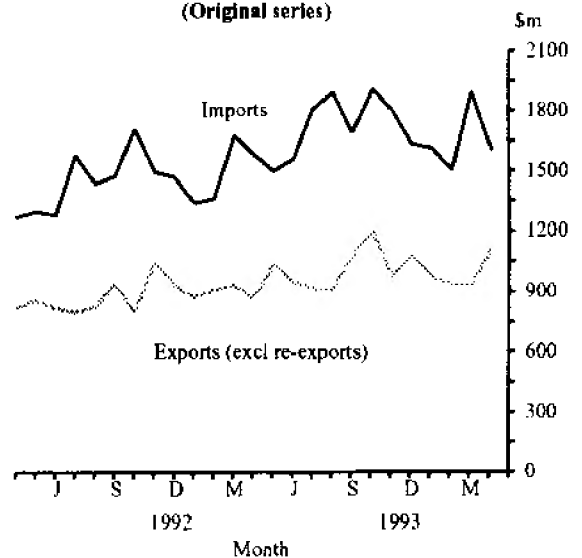
**NEW MOTOR VEHICLES REGISTERED, VICTORIA**



**TURNOVER OF RETAIL ESTABLISHMENTS, VICTORIA**



**VALUE OF IMPORTS INTO, AND EXPORTS FROM, VICTORIAN PORTS**  
(Original series)



## Information and Statistical Consultancy

The Australian Bureau of Statistics is Australia's national statistical authority. It collects, compiles and disseminates information on a wide range of economic, social and demographic topics for Australia, its States and Territories.

In addition to Dissemination of Statistical information through print and electronic media, the Bureau offers *Information and Statistical Consultancy Services* as a means of handling complex questions and projects involving the collection, use or interpretation of statistics.

ABS consultants provide expert advice and accurate information to meet a wide variety of statistical needs, quickly and professionally. Our consultants can help you in -

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Meeting your specialised information needs | <input type="checkbox"/> Designing a sample       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> In-depth data investigations               | <input type="checkbox"/> Designing questionnaires |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Collecting information                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Processing data          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Designing a survey                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Analysing data           |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Assessing tenders        |

Call you local *Information and Statistical Consultancy* to see about the many ways we can help you. Our inquiry staff will be happy to answer any questions you may have about the service we provide.

Melbourne (03) 615 7000

Canberra (06) 252 6627

### Electronic services

**DISCOVERY** The ABS intends discontinuing its statistical information services on DISCOVERY. Please contact Peter Davidson (Phone 06 252 6684) to discuss possible alternatives for acquiring statistics or if you wish to comment on this proposal.

**PC-AUSSTATS** Thousands of up-to-date time series are available on this ABS on-line service.  
For further information phone (03) 615 7769.

**PC-TELESTATS** Delivers major economic indicator publications ready to be downloaded into your computer on the day of release.  
For further information phone (06) 252 5408.

### Recorded message services

**0055 26400**

*Consumer Price Index  
National Accounts  
Balance of Payments  
Labour Force Estimates  
Average Weekly Earnings  
Estimated Resident Population*

### Floppy disk service

Selected ABS services are available on floppy disk. Further information is available on (06) 252 6884.

### Symbols and other usages

n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary - figure or series subject to revision
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
..	not applicable
-	nil or rounded to zero
—	break in continuity of series (where a line is drawn between two consecutive figures in the same column, or alongside two or more figures in consecutive columns).

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

**STUART JACKSON**

*Deputy Commonwealth Statistician*

